

From: [Maxwell, Grady](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [Filippini, Mark](#); [Fleming, Sheila](#); [Kelly, Joyce](#)
Subject: RE: Air quality concern / question on new 14th floor space
Date: Thursday, August 14, 2014 2:06:07 PM

(b) [REDACTED],

It's unfortunate to hear about your experience with the new floors. I would agree that adequate ventilation process should be undertaken prior to moving to newly renovated floors. Even with the use of low VOC emitting furnishings and adhesives, allowing freshly circulated air and time for off-gassing to dissipate would be a best practice. I am familiar with olfactory fatigue and can understand your concerns with sitting in an office space that has items off-gassing.

The safety and health program is working with OMP, GSA, and Headquarters to resolve the issues occurring from expedited moves to newly renovated floors. Also, the safety and health program encourages staff to speak with his/her immediate supervisor regarding relocation to floors not impacted by the move.

I understand this is a strenuous set of circumstances to those with mild to moderate sensitivities, and the safety program is diligently working to rectify the situation.

If questions or I can be of further assistance, please contact me at 3-0241.

Thanks,

Grady

From: (b) (6)(b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, August 14, 2014 1:50 PM
To: Maxwell, Grady
Cc: Filippini, Mark; Fleming, Sheila; Kelly, Joyce
Subject: Air quality concern / question on new 14th floor space

Grady,

I never thought of myself as particularly sensitive to VOCs and other chemicals / dust from construction activities, but since OEA's move from 9th floor to the 14th floor, I've noticed that by the end of the day my eyes are distinctly watery. I also had a tickle in my nose the first week plus on 14, although that seems to be slowly going away. But the watery eyes definitely don't seem to be getting any better.

One suggestion I have for floors currently and in the future undergoing remodeling is to let the new floor air out for a few days (weeks?) before anyone is allowed to move into the updated space. Maybe we're already doing that, but if not, it could only help improve air quality on the newly remodeled floors when staff moves in. Our old offices on 9th floor are still fully functional, as no

remodeling has taken place there yet, so there was no reason to be moved to 14 as rapidly as we were. Even in our 14th floor offices for the second week, the 'aroma' is less noticeable (or maybe we're all just suffering from olfactory fatigue in the new space). If you don't know what olfactory fatigue is, stop by. It's a real physiological phenomenon.

Best regards,

(b) (6)(b) (6)

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